

Ranger-led Activity Schedule

June 2014

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Join us for a variety of ranger-led programs from easy walks and evening talks to boat tours and all-day hikes.

Join a Ranger - Opportunities abound for all ages and skill-levels



An interpretive talk NPS / TOM GRAY

A wide variety of ranger-led programs are offered throughout the park during the summer. Almost all of the program offerings are free with the exception of the guided boat tours and select Native America Speaks programs. Ranger-led programs include guided hikes, talks, boat tours, drop-in programs, and evening programs.

These offerings provide the opportunity to gain an improved understanding and appreciation for the natural and cultural resources preserved within the park. Improve your national park experience—join a ranger and explore the park.

Native America Speaks



Tipis at St. Mary NPS

This summer, Blackfeet, Salish, Kootenai, and Pend d'Oreille tribal members will once again share their knowledge of Native American history and culture with Glacier National Park visitors as part of the 2014 Glacier National Park Native America Speaks Program. Programs are offered in campgrounds, lodges and at the St. Mary Visitor Center.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM INCLUDE:
Jack Gladstone, a Grammy-nominated Blackfeet singer/songwriter, presents his popular “Buckskin PoetSongs” program at the Many Glacier Hotel.

The **Blackfeet Singers and Dancers** provide insight into Blackfeet history and culture through narration and fancy, jingle, traditional, and grass dance demonstrations at the St. Mary Visitor Center.

Become a Junior Ranger



Junior Ranger pledge NPS

The Junior Ranger Program is an enjoyable way to learn how to help keep Glacier National Park wild and beautiful. Stop by the St. Mary, Logan Pass, or Apgar Visitor Center (or the Discovery Cabin in Apgar Village) and pick up one of our free Junior Ranger Activity Booklets. There is also a pre-reader version for our youngest Junior Rangers. Children (and maybe parents too!) will be challenged to complete the activities in the booklets and earn an official Glacier Junior Ranger Badge.

Glacier Park Boat Company - Boat Trips and Guided Walks



Lake Josephine ©DEEPU SASIDHARAN

In addition to the hikes led by the National Park Service, Glacier Park Boat Company naturalists lead guided walks in conjunction with boat cruises in the Two Medicine and Many Glacier valleys.

Tour length and prices vary.

Contact the Glacier Park Boat Company to plan your trip. (406) 257-2426 & www.glacierparkboats.com.

Tour Time	Boat Trips	2014 Season	Optional Guided Walks
8:30 am	Many Glacier	Begins when Grinnell Trail opens	Grinnell Glacier
9:00 am	Many Glacier	June 14 - September 14	Grinnell Lake
10:00 am	St. Mary Lake	June 21 - September 1	St. Mary Falls
1:00 pm	Two Medicine	June 7 - September 7	Twin Falls
2:00 pm	Many Glacier	June 14 - September 14	Grinnell Lake
2:00 pm	St. Mary Lake	June 21 - September 1	St. Mary Falls
3:00 pm	Two Medicine	June 7 - September 7	Twin Falls

The Glacier Institute - Celebrating 30 Years of Learning Gone Wild



Learning in the park GLACIER INSTITUTE

The Glacier Institute provides innovative outdoor education programs within and around Glacier National Park. For more information on times, locations, and attending summer courses contact:

The Glacier Institute
P.O. Box 1887
Kalispell, MT 59903
406-755-1211
www.glacierinstitute.org

Popular Summer Courses	2014 Season	Pricing
Spring Wildflowers	June 14	\$65.00
Birds of Prey - East Side	June 19	\$65.00
Wolves of the North Fork Valley	June 22	\$65.00
Birding by Ear	June 20-22	\$225.00
Summer Mushrooms	June 28-29	\$175.00



Bog gentian NPS / RAY RADIGAN



Wolves of the North Fork Valley NPS

Lake McDonald Valley

		M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
7:30 am	Winged Wonders Bird Walk	•								•				•			•			•			
9:00 am	Avalanche Lake Hike				•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
9:00 am	Journey to Apgar Lookout						•							•							•		
9:30 am	Creekside Stroll								•		•		•		•	•		•				•	•
9:30 am	Junior Ranger Explorers Walk						•			•		•		•			•		•		•		
10:00 am	Discovery Cabin (10 am to 4 pm)	♿					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
10:00 am	Nurturing Native Plants									•							•						
10:00 am	Rocky Point Ramble									•		•			•		•		•	•			
11:00 am	Wildlife Encounters Talk	♿							•	•	•		•	•	•	•			•	•	•		
11:30 am	Junior Ranger Discovery Talk	♿						•	•		•		•		•	•		•		•		•	•
1:30 pm	Amazing Animals Talk	♿		•				•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
1:30 pm	Lake McDonald Boat Tour	♿	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2:00 pm	Creekside Stroll						•					•						•					
2:00 pm	Johns Lake Loop Hike			•					•	•	•			•	•		•			•	•		
2:30 pm	Changing Landscapes												•						•				
2:30 pm	From Seeds to Cedars	•							•							•							•
3:00 pm	Lake McDonald Boat Tour	♿	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
3:30 pm	Ranger's Choice Talk	♿		•	•			•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4:00 pm	Johns Lake Loop Hike							•				•						•					
8:00 pm	Apgar Campground Evening Talk	♿	•	•	•		•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
8:00 pm	Native America Speaks	♿																					•
8:30 pm	Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program	♿		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
9:00 pm	Fish Creek Campground Evening Program	♿	•	•			•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Talks & Evening Programs

Amazing Animals
Explore the natural history and adaptations of some of Glacier’s most interesting inhabitants.
Discovery Cabin talk area
(Pathway located 100 yards north of the Back-country Permit Center in Apgar Village)
30 minutes

Apgar Campground Evening Talk
Join us on the shore of Lake McDonald for an exploration of Glacier’s natural and cultural history. Bring the family for an interesting look at this incredible place. Check bulletin boards for specific topics. Non-campers welcome. Limited parking space available.
Apgar Campground Amphitheater
45 minutes

Fish Creek Campground Evening Program
Sit back, relax, and uncover the diversity of Glacier. Topics range from bears to birds, history to seasonal changes, and much more. Check bulletin boards for specific topics. Non-campers welcome. Limited parking space available.
Fish Creek Campground Amphitheater
45 minutes

Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program
Spend an evening discovering the many wonders of Glacier National Park. Check bulletin boards for specific topics. All park visitors welcome.
Lake McDonald Lodge Auditorium
45 minutes

Native America Speaks
Learn what makes tribal culture so unique in this region. Members of the Salish, Kootenai, Pend d’Oreille, and Blackfeet Tribes share their cultural histories and traditions with the visitors of Glacier National Park. Non-campers welcome. Limited parking space available.
Apgar Campground Amphitheater
45 minutes

Ranger’s Choice
Uncover the unique aspects of the park. Join a ranger and explore a topic of his/her choice.
Discovery Cabin talk area
(Pathway located 100 yards north of the Back-country Permit Center in Apgar Village)
30 minutes

Wildlife Encounters Talk
Discover how to explore the park safely amongst the wildlife roaming the wilderness.
Apgar Visitor Center
15 minutes



Keep wildlife wild—a deer searching for food at a campground NPS / JONATHAN RINER

Walks & Hikes

Avalanche Lake Hike
Journey through a majestic old growth forest to scenic Avalanche Lake and uncover the intricacies of this unique environment.
Avalanche Creek roadside parking area on the Going-to-the-Sun Road
3½ hours, moderate 5-mile hike (8 km)

Changing Landscapes
Unearth the forces that build and shape the dramatic scenery in the park.
Second Pullout 0.7 miles north of North Lake McDonald Road on the Going-to-the-Sun Road (2 miles north of Lake McDonald Lodge)
2 hours, easy 2-mile walk (3.2 km)

Creekside Stroll
Enjoy a casual stroll through diverse habitats along lower McDonald Creek and uncover an abundance of life.
Backcountry Permit Center sign (Apgar Village)
2 hours, easy 1.75-mile walk (2.8 km)

From Seeds to Cedars
Discover Glacier’s wildflowers, trees, and other plant life found in this dynamic landscape.
Lower McDonald Creek Bridge (Camas Road)
2 hours, moderate 2-mile hike (3.2 km)

Johns Lake Loop Hike
Explore striking cedar-hemlock forests, quiet lakes, and roaring cascades on this leisurely hike.
Johns Lake trailhead
(1.5 miles north of the Lake McDonald Lodge on the Going-to-the-Sun Road)
2 hours, easy 3-mile walk (4.8 km)



Ranger talk aboard the historic DeSmet NPS / JONATHAN RINER

Journey to Apgar Lookout
Ascend through an emerging forest to a mountain summit and find inspiration in the breathtaking views from a historic fire tower.
Apgar Lookout trailhead
(Turn on Quarter Circle Bridge Road 0.5 mile north of the West Entrance and continue ~2.5 miles)
5 hours, strenuous 6.6-mile hike (10.6 km)

Nurturing Native Plants
Take an intimate look at how plants are grown in the park’s Native Plant Nursery and used in revegetation projects throughout the park.
Park Headquarters flagpole
1½ hours, easy walking tour

Rocky Point Ramble
Relish in the splendors and beautiful views as we travel along an ever-changing trail to the shores of Lake McDonald.
Rocky Point trailhead
(0.25 mile north of Fish Creek Campground Kiosk on the Inside North Fork Road)
2 hours, moderate 2.25-mile hike (3.6 km)

Winged Wonders Bird Walk
Locate, identify, and learn about several of Glacier’s most fascinating residents—the birds. Bring binoculars.
Make reservations, in person, up to three days in advance at the Apgar Visitor Center. Ask about accessibility.
2 hours, easy 1.5-mile bird walk (2.4 km)

Children’s Programs

Children’s programs are designed specifically for families and children. Children must be accompanied by an adult while in attendance.

Junior Ranger Discovery Talk
Discover what makes Glacier National Park special during this hands-on, interactive talk.
Discovery Cabin
(Pathway located 100 yards north of the Back-country Permit Center in Apgar Village)
20-30 minutes

Junior Ranger Explorers Walk
Explore the fascinating connections between the plants, animals, and non-living material on this interactive hike. Ages 6 and up.
Discovery Cabin
(Pathway located 100 yards north of the Back-country Permit Center in Apgar Village)
1½ hours, easy 1.5-mile walk (2.4 km)

Drop-in Programs

Park rangers will be available during the times listed. “Drop-in” and see what we are up to. Stay for a minute or stay for an hour.

Discovery Cabin
Touch a grizzly bear’s claws, feel a wolf’s amazing coat, or hold an elk’s antler. Rangers and volunteers will teach the whole family about the fascinating adaptations of Glacier’s predators and prey.
Discovery Cabin
(Pathway located 100 yards north of the Back-country Permit Center in Apgar Village)
Anytime between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm



Lake McDonald NPS / JONATHAN RINER

Boat Tours

Lake McDonald Boat Tour
Cruise along the dancing waters of Lake McDonald and enjoy a sampling of Glacier’s stories aboard the historic *DeSmet*. Arrive 15 minutes prior to departure.
Purchase tickets and meet at the Lake McDonald Lodge Boat Dock. Fee: \$16.25 adults, \$8 children ages 4-12, free for ages 3 and younger. Call (406) 257-2426 for reservations. (Reservations are highly recommended.)

Two Medicine Valley

		M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 am	Scenic Point Hike										•			•	•			•			•	•	
12:00 pm	Hike to Rockwell Falls											•					•		•				
12:30 pm	Aster Park Hike												•			•	•			•			•
8:00 pm	Two Medicine Campground Ranger Talk							•	•	•		•	•		•	•	•		•	•		•	•

Walks & Hikes



Aster Park Hike
Enjoy an easy hike to Aster Falls and then continue sharply upward 670 feet to Aster Park Overlook where you are rewarded with panoramic views of the Two Medicine valley.
Two Medicine Campstore
4 hours, moderate 3.8-mile hike (6 km)

Scenic Point Hike
Glaciated valleys and spectacular vistas highlight this rugged, steadily climbing hike. You will gain 2,350 feet over three miles with an alpine tundra reward at the top.
Scenic Point trailhead
5 hours, strenuous 6.2-mile hike (9.9 km)

Hike to Rockwell Falls
This moderately paced half-day hike passes Aster Falls, then gently ascends the valley beneath Sinopah Mountain to Rockwell Falls.
Two Medicine Campstore
5 hours, moderate 6.8-mile hike (10.9 km)

Talks & Evening Programs



Two Medicine Campground Ranger Talk
Come join a ranger for this traditional National Park Service evening program.
Two Medicine Amphitheater (Loop B, site 40)
45 minutes



Bighorn ewe NPS



Common paintbrush NPS



Two Medicine Lake NPS

Many Glacier Valley

		M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
7:00 am	Early Morning Bird Walk															•							•
8:30 am	Heart of Glacier Hike											•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
9:00 am	Grinnell Valley Boat Trip and Hike										•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2:00 pm	Where Have All the Glaciers Gone?	♿													•							•	
2:00 pm	Nature Walk										•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4:00 pm	Historic Hotel Tour														•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
5:30 pm	Scope it Out! - A Watchable Wildlife Activity	♿									•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
8:00 pm	Jack Gladstone’s “Buckskin PoetSongs”	♿																				•	
8:00 pm	Many Glacier Campground Ranger Talk										•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
8:00 pm	Many Glacier Hotel Evening Program	♿									•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•

Walks & Hikes



Early Morning Bird Walk
Early morning is the best time to see and hear the songbirds of the valley. Bring binoculars and a field guide.
Boat dock behind the Many Glacier Hotel
3 hours, easy 3-mile walk (4.8 km)

Heart of Glacier Hike
Discover the treasures of Glacier’s interior on a moderately strenuous hike to Iceberg Lake or one of the other unique areas in the heart of Glacier. May include walking on snow.
Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch
6-7 hours, moderate 10-mile hike (16 km)

Nature Walk
Explore the natural world and discover what makes Glacier a special place as you stroll to Wilbur Falls and Fishercap Lake.
Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch
1 hour, easy 1-mile walk (1.6 km)



Stellar's Jay NPS / JONATHAN RINER

Talks & Evening Programs

Jack Gladstone’s “Buckskin PoetSongs”
In concert, Jack Gladstone guides his audience through tribal stories, animal legends, character portraits, and historical eras into a richer appreciation of Native American heritage. Jack is a storytsmith who blends enlightening narrative with his well-crafted songs. Tickets are \$5 and available at the door (cash only). Free for children ages 12 and younger.
Many Glacier Hotel Lucerne Room
60 minutes

Many Glacier Campground Ranger Talk
Join a park ranger to learn about a special facet of Glacier National Park.
Many Glacier Campground Amphitheater
45 minutes

Many Glacier Hotel Evening Program
Join us for an illustrated program on the wonders of Glacier National Park. All park visitors welcome.
Many Glacier Hotel Lucerne Room
45 minutes

Where Have All the Glaciers Gone?
What is a glacier? Where have they been in the past? What’s happening to them now? Join a ranger to learn about the advance and retreat of glaciers over the years.
Many Glacier Hotel lobby
1 hour



Beargrass NPS



Swiftcurrent Lake NPS

Hotel Tours



Historic Hotel Tour
Join a ranger for a tour of the historic Many Glacier Hotel and learn about its history and restoration.
Many Glacier Hotel lobby
1 hour, some walking with stairs

Boat Tours & Hikes



Grinnell Valley Boat Trip and Hike
Meet for a cruise on Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes and an optional easy hike to Grinnell Lake. Snow and high water conditions may alter the hike route.
Purchase tickets in advance and meet at the Many Glacier Hotel boat dock. Fee: \$24.25 adults, \$12 children ages 4-12, free for ages 3 and younger. Call (406) 257-2426 for reservations. (Reservations are highly recommended.)
3½ hours, Easy 2-mile hike (3.2 km)

Spotting Scope Programs



Scope It Out - A Watchable Wildlife Activity
Drop by between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm and use our spotting scopes to scan the slopes for wildlife as a park ranger answers questions about Glacier’s animals.
Swiftcurrent Motor Inn parking lot

St. Mary Valley		M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 am	Wild About Wilderness Hike																					•	•
10:00 am	Boat Trip & Hike to Baring and St. Mary Falls																					•	•
1:30 pm	Animal Olympics for Kids																					•	•
2:00 pm	Boat Trip & Hike to Baring and St. Mary Falls																					•	•
7:00 pm	Glacier's Superheroes																						•
7:00 pm	Blackfeet Singers and Dancers																	•					
8:00 pm	St. Mary Campground Program																					•	•
8:00 pm	Rising Sun Campground Program															•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Walks & Hikes

Wild About Wilderness Hike

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act! Explore the 3-mile Beaver Pond loop trail, a favorite of the local park rangers. Hike through meadows and a dark, mysterious forest, while enjoying sweeping mountain vistas. The hike also winds through an area burned in 2006, which has created an ideal habitat for a variety of flowers, birds, and ungulates.
1913 Ranger Station parking lot
2½ hours, easy-moderate 3-mile (4.8 km) hike

Evening Programs

St. Mary Campground Program

Experience a national park tradition by joining a ranger at the St. Mary Campground Amphitheater for an engaging look at the natural and cultural history of the park.
St. Mary Campground Amphitheater, Loop C
45 minutes

Rising Sun Campground Program

Experience a national park tradition by joining a ranger for an engaging look at the natural and cultural history of the park.
Rising Sun Campground Amphitheater
45 minutes

Boat Tours & Hikes

Boat Trip & Hike to Baring and St. Mary Falls

Enjoy spectacular views as you cruise with a ranger on St. Mary Lake. While taking in the rugged mountain scenery, learn about Glacier's ever-changing landscape. Take the optional 3-mile round-trip hike to Baring and St. Mary Falls and catch a later boat back. The boat tour is approximately 1.5 hours. The boat tour with the optional guided hike is approximately 3.5 hours.
Purchase tickets and meet at the Rising Sun Boat Dock. Fee: \$24.25 adults, \$12 children ages 4-12, free for ages 3 and younger. Call (406) 257-2426 for reservations. (Reservations highly recommended.)
(6 miles west of the St. Mary Visitor Center on the Going-to-the-Sun Road)
3½ hours, easy 3-mile (4.8 km) hike

Demonstrations

Blackfeet Singers and Dancers

Join the Blackfeet Singers and Dancers with leaders Joe McKay and Ray Croff as they provide insight into contemporary and traditional Blackfeet history and culture through narration and fancy, jingle, traditional, and grass dance demonstrations. Tickets go on sale the morning of the performance and are available at the St. Mary Visitor Center Bookstore. Cash only at the door. \$5.00 for adults. Children 12 and under free. Seating is limited.
St. Mary Visitor Center Auditorium
(Enter auditorium through side doors near the restrooms)
90 minutes



St. Mary Falls

NPS



St. Mary Lake

NPS

Goat Haunt

		M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 am	International Peace Park Hike																				•		

Walks & Hikes

International Peace Park Hike

Hike with both US National Park Service and Parks Canada Staff on this exploration of the world's first International Peace Park. Hike across the international boundary from Waterton to Goat Haunt and return to Waterton via boat. Bring proper identification for the border crossing.

Each hike includes a boat trip fee and is limited to 35 people, so you must pre-register at either the St. Mary Visitor Center in Glacier (406-732-7750) or the Waterton Lakes Visitor Information Centre in Waterton (403-859-5133). Reservations are only accepted for the next scheduled hike (open on Wednesday for Saturday hikes; open on Saturday for Wednesday hikes).
Bertha Lake trailhead in Waterton Townsite
7 hour, moderate 8.5-mile hike (13.6 km)

Hands Across the Border

NPS

The International

NPS

Accessibility

Accessible options are available for many ranger-led activities (see program lists). A sign language interpreter or assistive listening devices may be available upon request by calling 406-888-7931 at least two weeks in advance of your visit.

Safety Message

Water Hazards & Drowning

Please use extreme caution near water. Drowning is a major cause of fatalities in Glacier National Park. With the high volume of spring snowmelt, visitors should be especially cautious in the month of June. Swift, cold glacial streams and rivers, moss-covered rocks, and slippery logs all present hazards. Avoid wading in or fording swift streams. Never walk, play, or climb on slippery rocks and logs, especially around waterfalls. When boating don't stand up or lean over the side, and always wear a life jacket.

Glacier National Park
CONSERVANCY

This publication and all Native American interpretive programs offered in the park are made possible by the Glacier National Park Conservancy